



Representative Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

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Rep. Slaughter Introduces Resolution Honoring Beverly Eckert

A Link to Video of the Floor Statement Follows After Remarks

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Washington, DC - Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today offered House Resolution 201 commemorating Beverly Eckert, a passenger on Flight 3407, for her service to survivors and families of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Following are Rep. Slaughter's remarks as prepared for delivery:

M. Speaker, on February 12, 2009 our nation was shocked and saddened by the devastating plane accident in Clarence, New York, a few miles outside of Buffalo.

Our thoughts and prayers will always be with the family and friends who lost loved ones on Continental Connection Flight 3407.

Today we are here to recognize Beverly Eckert who lost her life on that tragic February day for her tremendous service to our nation, particularly to the survivors and families of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

M. Speaker, Beverly Eckert was the widow of Mr. Sean Rooney, who died in the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and had been among the most visible faces of the victim's families in the aftermath of the attacks.

Following her husband's death, Beverly co-founded "Voices of September 11," an advocacy group for survivors and 9/11 families.

Beverly was instrumental in the development and growth of this important advocacy group, which is now supported by more than 5,500 members.

Along with other members of the Voices of September 11, she testified before the 9/11 Commission to help report on the September 11th terrorists attacks.

Beverly worked with the 110th Congress and was a key proponent in enacting the 9/11 Commission's Recommendations to prevent, prepare, and respond to acts of terrorism.

Simply put, Beverly's work helped to make our nation safer and more secure.

As the tireless advocate she was, Beverly was a passenger on Flight 3407 on her way to Buffalo to mark what would have been her husband's birthday and launch a scholarship in his memory.

We have all lost an inspiring and tenacious champion in Beverly. We must continue to honor her memory and accomplishments while carrying on her mission.

Today we consider a resolution to acknowledge Beverly's service on behalf of the survivors and families of the September 11th attacks, and recognize Beverly's work to help protect our nation.

This resolution also extends condolences to the family of Beverly Eckert and the families of all those who were lost on Continental Connection Flight 3407.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, honor the life of Beverly Eckert, and commemorate her valuable service to the 9/11 survivors and families and this country.

LINK TO VIDEO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZN6qc7UewX4>

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